

Ovarian Cancer – Joint Letter Request (\$30,000,000). I would ban earmarks as we know them, but as long as these earmarks are available, I'm going to apply for them in an effort to pursue federal funding opportunities for my district. For defense projects in the current earmarking system, the individual projects I sponsor have the support of our military and further our national security. These projects are vetted by the professional staff on the House Armed Services and House Appropriations Committees during the appropriations process. I only request funds for projects authorized by law for federal funding and do not do so for private parties or entities. This project will provide ovarian cancer research funding as part of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs through the Department of Defense Health Program Account. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because an estimated 15,000 women died from ovarian cancer in 2008, and it is expected that more than 21,000 women will be diagnosed with the disease this year. This research program is essential to our country's fight against this deadly disease – the fifth leading cause of cancer death among American women.